



Washington's National Park Fund News



August 2015

We've been hearing from many of you this month as we're all following news of wildfires in our parks. While wildfires are part of the natural system, the vast majority are caused by human activity. Thus, all the fire bans.

For the most up-to-date info, check in at [InciWeb](#) to view all active fires in our state.

Over the Top!
5:30-9 p.m., Wednesday, September 16th
Georgetown Ballroom



Georgetown Ballroom, photo courtesy Red Box Pictures.

Through the support of individuals, foundations, and corporations, priority projects at Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks are funded each year. **Because of you**, we're able to improve visitors' experiences (trails, search and rescue, meadow restoration) strengthen youth and family programs, enhance science and research (elk, glacial/water monitoring), and expand each park's volunteer program.

Each year, though, some of these projects are only partially funded. **With your help on Wednesday, September 16, we can change that.** Let's take funding for priority park projects up and **Over The Top!** Superintendents and rangers will give firsthand accounts while explaining specific proposals in detail. Then we'll have a unique opportunity to contribute to move these projects from wish to reality! Hearty appetizers, signature drinks, sparkling waters and wine and beer will be served.

Have a direct and real impact on the project that speaks most to you! Join us! The fun starts at 5:30 p.m, Wednesday, September 16th at [Georgetown Ballroom](#). **Tickets are \$50 per person and on sale now at [Over the Top](#).** Questions? Can't attend but want to give? Reach out to WNPf's Events Coordinator, Ashley Stokes at (206) 623-2063 or ashley@wnpf.org.

**Come from work or a day of hiking; dress is casual.
Relax and enjoy other friends of our national parks.
Mingle with national park and Fund staff and WNPf board members.**

Walk away knowing exactly how your support is impacting Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks.

This promises to be a memorable evening.

[Buy Tickets](#)



Your Impact!

Interesting piece on the Elwha River restoration in the [New York Times](#) recently...your support of WNPF helped Olympic National Park educate the masses prior to dam removal. What a FASCINATING STORY this has been. Have you seen the [park's live cam](#) lately? Have you been on site? If not, take a trip but note [upcoming road closures](#).

To learn more, see Olympic National Park's newsletter, [The Bugler](#), here.

While the Cascade River Road in North Cascades National Park will [be closing soon](#), work continues on the beloved Sahale Arm trails. Work crews are diligently fixing wash-outs, removing pesky rocks, and making things beautiful again. Thanks to REI and YOU, this project is in its third year of restoration.

Speaking of North Cascades National Park, Northwest Youth Corp crews are busily making improvements up in Stehekin. Thanks to our friends at the [Community Foundation of North Central Washington](#) in Wenatchee, young people from Central Washington are working on trails and restoring campsites.

Congratulations Microsoft, Point B and REI climbers!

Bret Wirta, WNPF Board President, said after his climb, "I had the humbling experience of climbing Mount Rainier with a fantastic team from Point B. Not only did we reach Rainier's summit (14,410') at 4:25am early Sunday morning under the light of a full moon, but these wonderful young men raised \$15,000 for Washington's National Park Fund!"

Learn more about [fundraising climbs](#) of both Mount Rainier and Mount Shuksan in the North Cascades on our website.





TOP: Bret Wirta with Point B climbing team. Thanks, Jeremy Gordon and all!

MIDDLE: REI's Kelly Jackson, Marcos & Carson up on Rainier's Disappointment Cleaver, followed by REI's climbing team #1.

BOTTOM: Micorsoft's climbing team.

Join us! Thursday, September 17th at the Beaver Lake Lodge



Attention friends in Sammamish, Bellevue, Redmond, Snoqualmie, Carnation and points beyond!

Join WNPf and Superintendents of Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks for Washington's National Park Fund's **Eastside Fall Fireside Circle Event**.

Thursday, September 17, 2015 at the Beaver Lake Lodge in Sammamish. Wine, beer, sparkling water and appetizers will be served. Reception begins at 5:30pm and program begins at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$15 per person. **Reserve your space [here!](#)**

Enjoy this opportunity to hear from the Superintendents from our state's three largest national parks. They'll offer up comments regarding both the joys and the challenges facing these crown jewels in the 21st Century and how Washington's National Park Fund is supporting their efforts. Mingle with others while also visiting with members of Washington's National Park Fund board of directors.

Reception begins at 5:30pm. Comments by superintendents begin at 7:00pm.

Sarah Creachbaum, Olympic National Park

Randy King, Mount Rainier National Park

Karen Taylor-Goodrich, North Cascades National Park

Special thanks to Fireside Circle hosts, David and Janet Barbrack and friends!

[Buy Tickets](#)

And please stay tuned to our website...details and registration information will be coming soon for these fall overnight Fireside Circle gatherings:

The Lodge at Stehekin, October 9-11

Lake Crescent Lodge, November 13-14

Thank you RAMROD riders...all 800 of you!

**Congratulations to all 2015 RAMROD riders and
HUGE THANKS to the army of volunteers!**

The 32nd Edition of RAMROD featured crystal-clear views of Mount Rainier and afternoon temps in the 90s...yup, those popsicles at the end never tasted so good! Congratulations to all cyclists who took part in this year's event and a very big thank you to those who chose to give back to Mount Rainier National Park through contributions to WNPF! And REI Team? Way to ROCK IT!!

Check out the RAMROD highlight [video](#) here. Learn more about our long [partnership](#) with RAMROD...a **Ride Around Mount Rainier in One Day**.

RCC photo/ Bill Pence



Bits and Pieces

Welcome Lee! Lee Taylor has been named new deputy superintendent of Olympic National Park. She'll join the staff there mid-September. [Read on here.](#)

Calling all volunteers! Washington's National Park Fund is looking for passionate parks people to distribute information at park entrances on [fee free days](#). Dates include Tuesday, August 25, and Saturday, September 26. Information is distributed at the Nisqually and Paradise entrances at [Mount Rainier National Park](#), and Heart of the Hills at [Olympic National Park](#). Time frame: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Give back to your parks by stepping up now. For more information, please contact [Ashley Stokes](#).

Funding priorities for 2015 include support for interns and other critical volunteer positions, restoration and repair projects, youth programs, and scientific research. Your support matters!

To make a donation to
Washington's National
Park Fund today,
[click here!](#)

Have you checked out the [WNPF blog](#)? To The Parks!

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1904 Third Avenue, Suite 400
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 623-2063

For more information about Washington's National Park Fund,
please feel free to contact:

Laurie Ward, Executive Director
(206) 623-2063

Laurie@wnpf.org